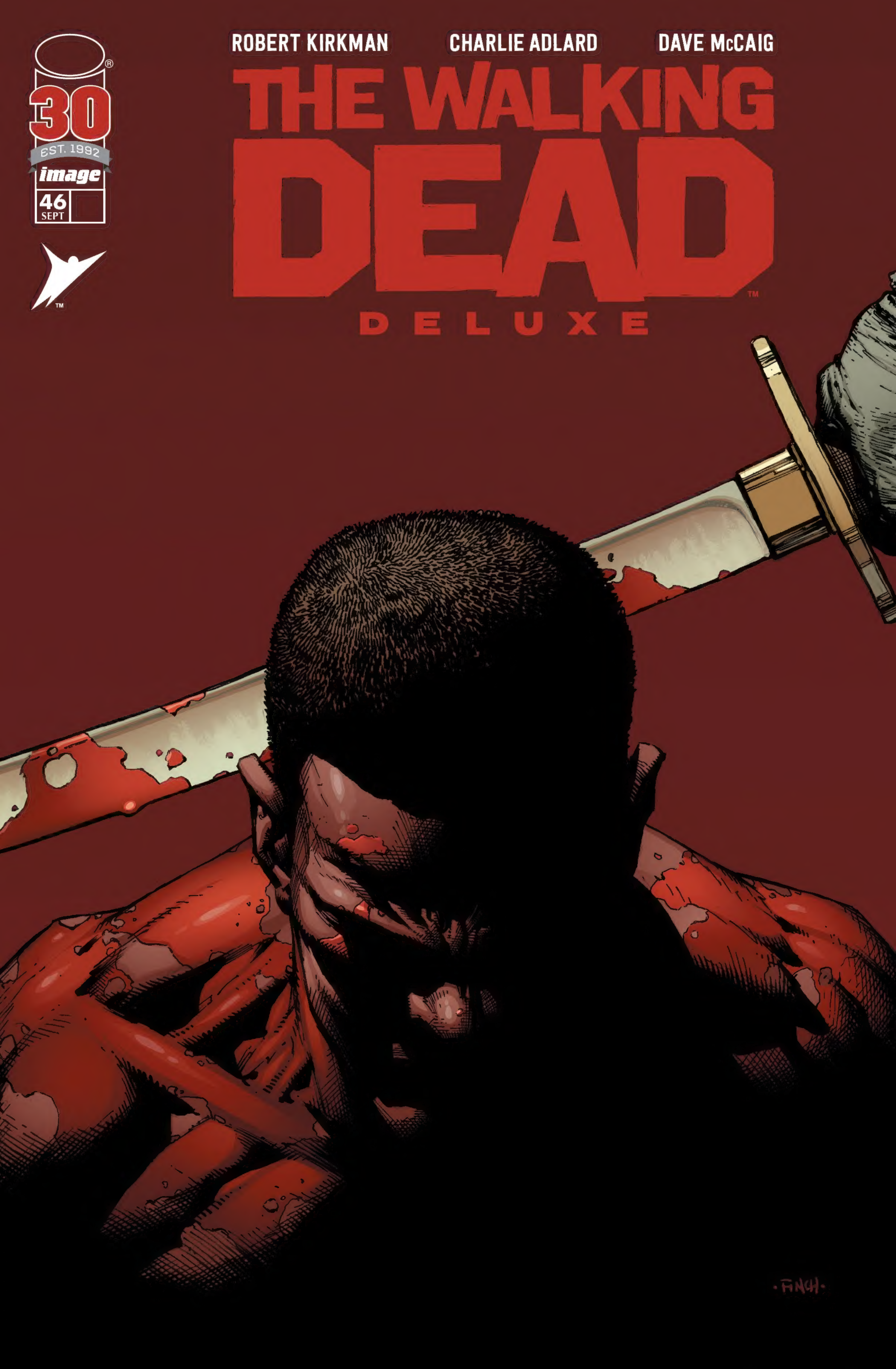
ROBERT KIRKMAN CHARLIE ADLARD DAVE McCAIG

THE WALKING DEAD™

DELUXE



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ANTERIORMENTE:

Rick se recuperó lentamente de su herida de bala, pero como la situación parecía cada vez más desesperada, Dale, Andrea, Maggie y Glenn cogieron a sus respectivos hijos y se marcharon de la prisión en la caravana. Michonne y Tyreese también se marcharon de la prisión para atacar por sorpresa al Gobernador, con resultados desastrosos.

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THE WALKING DEAD DELUXE #46. SEPTEMBER 2022.
PUBLISHED BY IMAGE COMICS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: PO BOX 14457, PORTLAND, OR 97293.

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¿LE DISPARASTE EN LA CABEZA?

¿LA MATASTE?

SÍ.

ESTÁ BIEN MUERTA, JEFE.

¿LA *VISTE* MORIR?

¿FUISTE TESTIGO?

¡MATTHEW!

MIRA. SALIÓ CORRIENDO, SE FUE MUY LEJOS. LA VI CORRER. LE DISPARÉ. VI QUE SE DESPLOMÓ. VI QUE DEJÓ DE MOVERSE.

ESTOY CONVENCIDO DE QUE NO FUE TAN LENTO Y DOLOROSO COMO TE HUBIERA GUSTADO--PERO ESTÁ MUERTA.

Y ANTES DE QUE SE NOS ESCAPARA...

...LE QUITAMOS *ESTO.*

IMAGINÉ QUE QUERRÍAS TENER EL TROFEO.

NO ME IMPORTA QUE ESTÉS AQUÍ FUERA-- PERO SI A ALGUIEN LE *PARECE* ESCUCHAR UN COCHE, LLEVA A JUDY ADENTRO ANTES DE QUE OCURRA ALGO.

NO TE PREOCUPES. PROTEGERÉ A NUESTRA HIJA.

¿NO ACABÁBAMOS DE *SACAR* TODAS ESTAS COSAS DEL CAMIÓN?

ESTE CAMIÓN PODRÍA MARCAR LA DIFERENCIA ENTRE QUE VIVAMOS O MURAMOS. ES NUESTRA RED DE SEGURIDAD.

SI LAS COSAS SE PONEN FEAS-- SUBIREMOS A ESTE TRASTO Y SALDREMOS PITANDO DE AQUÍ EN CUALQUIER DIRECCIÓN EN LA QUE *NO* NOS ATAQUEN.

LO MÁS INTELIGENTE ES ESTAR PREVENIDOS-- PERO NO QUIERO PENSAR QUE HAS PERDIDO LA ESPERANZA, RICK.

PODEMOS HACER ESTO, PODEMOS VENCERLES.

CRÉEME, HERSHEL--ESPERO QUE ESTÉS EN LO CIERTO.

VALE. LAS COSAS PINTAN BIEN. PODEMOS PONER LOS COCHES COMO UNA BARRERA. NUESTRO CAMIÓN DE HUIDA ESTÁ CARGADO DE SUMINISTROS. LA VERDAD ES QUE QUEDAN MUY POCAS COSAS POR HACER.

ME GUSTARÍA SACAR DEL GARAJE LOS AUTOBUSES DE LA PRISIÓN. TENEMOS UN PAR-- ME GUSTARÍA APARCARLOS JUNTO A LAS TORRES, PARA QUE SIRVAN DE COBERTURA A CUALQUIERA QUE QUIERA IR A LA TORRE O ALEJARSE DE ELLA.

ADEMÁS, QUEDAN VARIOS TRAJES ANTIDISTURBIOS-- CREO QUE DEBERÍAMOS APROVECHARLOS. POR LO DEMÁS--DEBEMOS ESTAR ALERTA, PERO AL MISMO TIEMPO--DESCANSAR CUANTO SEA POSIBLE HASTA QUE VUELVAN.

PORQUE ***VOLVERÁN.***

VOY A VER SI CARL ESTÁ BIEN.

ME SIENTO MUCHO MENOS MAREADO DESDE HACE UNA HORA-- CREO QUE PUEDO DEJAR LAS MULETAS.

AÚN NO. NO TE CONVIENE HACER ESE ESFUERZO--PODRÍA HACER QUE SE TE SALTEN LOS PUNTOS-- TE ARRIESGARÍAS A SUFRIR UNA INFECCIÓN.

SE TRATA DE UN RIESGO QUE DEBO ASUMIR. YA HAY ***DEMASIADAS COSAS*** QUE ME RETRASAN.

¿GUISANTES?

SÍ, Y ESTO TAMBIÉN. HAY QUE PONER DE TODO UN POCO, SI CABE.

¿NO HABÍAS CARGADO YA CASI TODO EN EL CAMIÓN GRANDE? ¿PARA QUÉ NECESITAMOS TODO ESTO?

SI TODO SALE BIEN, NO NECESITAREMOS EL CAMIÓN NI ESTA MOCHILA.

PERO QUIERO QUE TENGAMOS OPCIONES--SI TU MADRE Y TÚ TENÉIS QUE ESCAPAR--Y NO PODÉIS LLEGAR AL CAMIÓN, NECESITAREIS LLEVAR ESTO.

¿Y TÚ? ¿DÓNDE ESTARÁS?

NO TE PREOCUPES POR MÍ. SI NOS SEPARAMOS, OS ENCONTRARÉ.

¿LO PROMETES?

YA LO HE HECHO ANTES, ¿VERDAD?

OH, SÍ... UNA COSA MÁS...

¿QUÉ ES?

QUIERO DARTE ESTO.

¿MI PISTOLA?

SÉ QUE SERÁS RESPONSABLE CON ELLA. CONFÍO EN TI, CARL. PUEDE QUE LA NECESITES. PERO QUIERO QUE TENGAS CUIDADO.

GRACIAS, PAPÁ. TE PROMETO QUE NO--

¿TIENES MIEDO?

NO TE VOY A MENTIR. ESTOY ***PREOCUPADO***... Y POR ESO HEMOS SIDO CUIDADOSOS Y NOS HEMOS PREPARADO PARA LO PEOR.

PERO NO TENGO MIEDO. Y TAMPOCO QUIERO QUE TÚ TENGAS ***MIEDO***. PODEMOS SUPERAR ESTO, HIJO. PODEMOS.

HM.

LA ARTERIA ANTERIOR NO ESTÁ PREPARADA PARA GESTIONAR TANTO FLUJO SANGUÍNEO SI SE CIRCUNVALA--

ES BUENO SABERLO.

AH...

HEY.

HOLA, ALICE.

PATRICIA...

UM...

VOLVERÉ DENTRO DE UN--

VOLVERÉ *LUEGO.*

¿TENEMOS QUE LLEVARLO TODO EL DÍA, TODOS LOS DÍAS DE AHORA EN ADELANTE?

SÍ. SOLO ERA UNA SUGERENCIA PARA TODOS LOS DEMÁS-- PERO TÚ ***DEBES*** LLEVARLO. SON ÓRDENES MÍAS.

VALE. ***VALE.***

NO TE QUIERO EN ESA TORRE SIN PROTECCIÓN. ES POR TU BIEN.

TÚ, *AH*... ¿HAS ESTADO REZANDO?

POR NOSOTROS, QUIERO DECIR.

...COMO NUNCA ANTES HABÍA REZADO.

LOS TIEMPOS INCIERTOS COMO ESTOS SON LOS QUE TE HACEN REZAR MÁS. EN MOMENTOS ASÍ, AGRADEZCO A MI BUENA ESTRELLA QUE EL SEÑOR ESTÉ AHÍ PARA MÍ.

¿CREES-- QUE EL SEÑOR TAMBIÉN ESTÁ AHÍ PARA MÍ?

POR ***SUPUESTO*** QUE SÍ. Y NO TE PREOCUPES--LE HABLARÉ BIEN DE TI.

PAPÁ, YO--TENGO MUCHO ***MIEDO.***

LO SÉ, HIJO. TODOS LO TENEMOS.

OH, AQUÍ ESTÁS.

¿EH?

OH... ALICE. HOLA.

AH...

TRANQUILO, EN SERIO.

NI LO MENCIONES.

NO, AH... LO SIENTO. NO FUE MI INTENCIÓN-- SIMPLEMENTE PASÓ. PATRICIA Y YO ESTÁBAMOS HABLANDO Y... YA SABES.

EN ESTE MOMENTO NO IBA A RECHAZAR NADA--¿ME SIGUES?

ENTIENDO, SÍ. SOLO QUERÍA COMPROBAR TU VENDAJE-- ASEGURARME DE QUE NO SANGRABA EN EXCESO.

YO LO VEO BIEN.

AH...

BUENO, ¿QUÉ OPINAS? ¿VAMOS A SALIR DE ÉSTA?

SOLO DIRÉ QUE CON CADA HORA QUE PASA, ME ARREPIENTO MÁS DE NO HABERME MARCHADO CON DALE.

¿Y TÚ? ¿PREFERIRÍAS HABERTE IDO?

¿YO? NI HABLAR.

HA PASADO MUCHO TIEMPO DESDE LA ÚLTIMA VEZ QUE ESTUVE AL OTRO LADO DE LA VALLA--Y SÉ QUE AHÍ FUERA NO HAY NADA PARA MÍ.

ESTE LUGAR ES MI HOGAR.

NYAAA.

OUNGH.

SHHHHH.

TENEMOS QUE GUARDAR SILENCIO, PEQUEÑA. MAMÁ ESTÁ DURMIENDO.

NO QUEREMOS DAR OTRO PASEO POR AQUÍ, ¿VERDAD?

BUENA CHICA.

TE QUIERO MUCHO, PEQUEÑA JUDY.

BLAM!

¡¿WLIAGH?!

¡MIERDA!

¡CAMIÓN!

¡¡VEO UN CAMIÓN!!

LORI, VUELVE ADENTRO-- PROTEGE A LOS NIÑOS.

¿QUÉ PASA?

VIENE UN CAMIÓN.

SOLO ES UNO-- TIENEN QUE SER TYREESE Y MICHONNE. NO MANDARÍAN SOLO UN CAMIÓN A POR NOSOTROS.

TIENEN QUE SER ELLOS.

¿QUÉ PRETEN-DEN?

¿ESTÁN DANDO LA VUELTA? ¿INTENTAN QUE LOS SIGAMOS?

¿NOS ATACAN? ¡HE ESCUCHADO UN DISPARO! ¿QUÉ ESTÁ PASANDO?

¿ESTÁN DANDO MARCHA ATRÁS EL CAMIÓN HACIA NOSO-TROS?

QUÉ *EXTRAÑO.*

ESPERA-- ESTÁN SALIENDO DE LA CABINA.

ES--

VAMOS ALLÁ.

EVITA QUE LOS PUTOS MORDEDORES SE ACERQUEN A NOSOTROS EL TIEMPO SUFICIENTE PARA QUE PUEDA TERMINAR, ¿VALE?

VALE.

QUE COMIENCE EL ESPECTÁCULO, HERMANO.

UUNGHH.

OH, NO...

ANTES DE QUE ALGUIEN SE ANIME A DISPARAR--¡SABED QUE TAMBIÉN TENGO A LA MUJER! ¡SI MI AMIGO GORDO Y YO NO VOLVEMOS A NUESTRO CAMPAMENTO DE UNA PIEZA, ***ELLA MORIRÁ!***

ASÍ QUE NADA DE MOVIMIENTOS BRUSCOS-- ¿VALE?

TENIENDO EN CUENTA ESO, CREO QUE PODÉIS VER A DONDE NOS LLEVA ESTO. ABRID LAS PUERTAS--SUBID A ESTE CAMIÓN Y VOLVED CON NOSOTROS--

¡--O LE HARÉ ALGO ***ESPANTOSO*** A VUESTRO AMIGO!

¡NO LE DEJÉIS ENTRAR!

NO--

THWACK!

¡CÁLLATE!

ENTONCES, ¿QUÉ VA A SER?

¿QUÉ ***HACEMOS?***

¿QUÉ ***PODEMOS*** HACER?

NO PODEMOS DEJARLE ENTRAR AQUÍ. SI ENTRA EN LA PRISIÓN, NOS MATARÁ ***A TODOS...*** AL FINAL.

TYREESE NO DEBIÓ IRSE. ES ÉL O TODOS NOSOTROS. NO PODEMOS HACER ***NADA.***

Y MICHONNE...

MIERDA.

ASÍ QUE, ¿ESO ES TODO?

CREO QUE NO OS DAIS CUENTA DE LO ***EN SERIO*** QUE HABLO.

THUNK!

¡JODER!

¡HWAKK!

¡HUKK!

THUNK!

SHLONK!

PENSAD EN MICHONNE. SI ESTÁ VIVA--ESTO PODRÍA DARLE EL TIEMPO SUFICIENTE PARA ESCAPAR.

SOLO PENSAD EN ELLA...

SHUKK!!

WHUMP!

THUNK!

THUNK!

THUNK!

¡HUFF!

¡HUFF!

¡HUFF!

WROK!

DÉJASELO PARA LOS MORDEDORES. SALGAMOS DE AQUÍ ANTES DE QUE SE ACERQUEN DEMASIADO-- O ANTES DE QUE UNO DE ESOS CABRONES TRAUMATIZADOS DECIDAN DISPARAR.

WHUMP!

PTING!

DEPRISA-- ¡VAMOS, VAMOS!

BILLY-- ¡NO!

PKOW! PKOW! PKOW!

PTAKK! PTAKK!

SKRESSH!!

VAMOS, MALDITA SEA-- ¡VAMOS!

YO NO--OH, DIOS--CREO QUE NO PUEDO SEGUIR CON ESTO.

NO IMPORTA-- *TIENES QUE HACERLO.*

TENEMOS QUE SOBREPONERNOS, GENTE--¡O TYREESE HABRÁ MUERTO PARA *NADA!*

PRONTO--MUY PRONTO, ESA GENTE VOLVERÁ A APARECER POR LA COLINA--¡Y TENEMOS QUE ESTAR PREPARADOS PARA ELLOS!

¡NADIE VA A HACER ESTO POR NOSOTROS!

BUENO, AH... ¿CÓMO HA IDO?

¿QUE CÓMO HA IDO? ¡NO HA IDO BIEN, ASÍ DE CLARO!

¡NO HA FUNCIONADO, JODER!

INTENTAMOS QUE ABRIERAN LAS PUERTAS--QUE ACEPTARAN A SU HOMBRE A CAMBIO DE DEJARNOS ENTRAR. INCLUSO AMENAZAMOS CON MATARLE.

¡ESOS ***LOCOS--MALVADOS*** HIJOS DE PUTA DISPARARON A SU PROPIO HOMBRE! ¡NOSOTROS TENÍAMOS UNA PEQUEÑA VENTAJA, ASÍ QUE DISPARARON A SU PROPIO HOMBRE EN LA PUTA CABEZA!

¡LE MATARON PARA QUE NO PUDIÉRAMOS USARLE CONTRA ELLOS!

Y... ¿QUÉ HACEMOS AHORA?

¿QUÉ HACE-MOS?

MATAR A TODOS Y CADA UNO DE ESOS CABRONES, ES LO QUE VAMOS A HACER.

SE ACABARON LAS ESPERAS--SE ACABARON LOS RODEOS. ES LA HORA DE TERMINAR CON ESTO.

¡VAMOS A ACTUAR *AHORA!*

SUBID A LOS COCHES-- ¡CARGAD LAS PUTAS ARMAS Y ANDANDO! VAMOS A LIQUIDAR A ESOS MONSTRUOS--A LIBRAR AL MUNDO DE SU MALDAD, AQUÍ--Y AHORA.

¡EN MARCHA, GENTE!

...

¿SE PUEDE SABER QUÉ NARICES TE PASA?

JODER.

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: **WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM**

Hello, Letter Hacks, Amanda here. This is a tough issue, and one that is always difficult to re-read. Even though we're almost 50 issues in, and there have been a number of deaths so far, I still find myself going through the five stages of grief. It's hard to lose the people you want to stick around, and this is one the hits me the hardest. Tyreese, you'll be sorely missed.

First of all, sorry for the delay. The holidays crept up on me and pretty much wrecked my ability to get this book out. As I type this, Charlie is working on #48, so we should catch up in fairly short order. Things are moving along nicely for us to have an issue-filled 2008, so don't worry... this will just be another small hiccup along the way, hopefully the last.

Second, so long Tyreese, huh?

Tyreese has been one of my favorite characters in the book for a long time. I'm just as sorry to see him go as, I'm sure, a lot of you reading this are. Now, in the past, I've been raked over the coals any time I do anything to a minority character. It's not fair, and we've discussed it to death in this letters column, so I'd just as soon not have to deal with it in the letters column for the next six months.

While some deaths in this series are very spur of the moment actions that I try not to think through (because it makes things more spontaneous, like real life) Tyreese death has been planned almost since his introduction. It's always been something I've known about and have been working toward. It will have great impact on the series and well, frankly... nobody lives forever in this book.

Nobody.

So these things will continue to happen for the duration of the series. Characters have to die... that's just how the book works. So while I will miss Tyreese, I have the luxury of knowing what's ahead for the rest of the crew in this book, and so I know things will be okay.

So, uh... don't flip out.

Now, let's answer a bit of that mail.

Hey Kirkman,

All right, first things first: I'm a fan of Walking Dead. I dig it a lot, and I hope you keep putting it out for years yet to come. (You can feel the 'but' coming, can't you?)

Bring it on!

But here's the thing. Lately, your pacing really, really blows, and for me, issue 43 was really the last straw. Dude, you can't keep throwing cliffhangers at us then just not addressing them for a month. That's what I call self-indulgence and wasted opportunity.

What really gets me is that you *know* that shit is gonna piss us off, because you asked for our patience at the start of the letters page. Well, I got news for you, man. You gotta earn our patience. 'Cause mine is all used up after issue after issue that goes nowhere, even as you try to build up an imminent threat. You go on to say that everything that takes place is important later.

Well shit man, why not tell us later then? Do a flashback or something when it's relevant. Don't interrupt your momentum to give us some bullshit background that, by your own admission, we don't need to know yet. That's lazy writing man.

Well, that's basically what I did. The important stuff from 43 that would be important "later" was important starting in 43. I didn't slow down the momentum of 36-42 by showing you the stuff in 43... instead, I saved it for a flashback.

The story has pretty much all but ground to a standstill for now. And that is downright amazing, considering you have a bunch of guys and a tank sitting outside the prison at the moment.

Yeah, it builds tension, right?! Right?!

So pick up the fuckin' pace man! If you keep on doing these tangents that overwhelm the main narrative, you're going to move into the

realm of literary masturbation. I mean, for god's sake, Rick & Co. have been at the prison for more than two years of real time, and not enough is happening, even regarding (the initially excellent) character development.

Actually, Rick and company haven't been at the prison very long at all, not even a year. Lori was pregnant when Rick showed up and she gave birth nine months later, in issue 39. So they've only been here 7 months or so. A lot has happened to them in 7 months.

Anyways, I love this comic a lot. You've managed to single- handedly make zombies cool again, and the cast you've put together is second to none, I think. Don't squander what you and Charlie have worked so hard to put together, as even your most ardent fans grow impatient with glacial pacing! You deserve better dude.

Best,
Ben P

Well, starting with issue 49, things will be a whole heck of a lot faster. I'm taking my time with this Woodbury battle... it's probably the most important thing to happen in the book to date... but after that's over... it's full steam ahead.

Dear Captain Kirk(man)

Why the heck are you apologizing? The flashback issue was a great change of pace, insightful and refreshing. The governor is the consummate scumbag politician (reminds me of a guy named Anibal), and in a few ways he is a dark doppelganger to Rick.

I was not shocked at all by his appearance last issue, because some of our fighting men in Iraq have sustained worse injuries in the battlefield, and his "death" lacked the seal of finality of everything else we've seen before.

V Rosario Fermaint
San Juan

Glad you liked it. I too was pretty surprised when I saw so many people were under the impression The Governor was dead. I didn't even mean to imply that.

Mr. kirkman

I have to say the Governor is truly one of the sickest most vile, evil pieces of scum characters I have ever read. I love him. Just when I thought you couldn't take him any further with raping and beating of Michonne, the live zombie feeding in a gladiator pit, severed zombie heads in fish tanks as entertainment, etc. You take him to another level not only do you have him survive Michonne's attack but you have him molest his zombie daughter that is just fucking sick where that hell did you come up with that idea,.... you know what never mind I might not want to know the answer to that. Thank you for such a great comic book I have been with you from day one and I just about love every issue. I never wrote before but after reading №43 I had to say something. You have truly taken zombies stories to another level. You are truly a superman among insects. Keep up the impeccable work

-James

Yeah, the zombie kiss... eh. I was just trying to think of the worst things The Governor could ever do. The Governor is the worst case scenario for what living in this world does to people. I want him to be the most extreme case.

Mr. Kirkman,

OK... after many "close calls" I'm finally writing my first ever letter to a comic book.

Congratulations, sir, you've popped my comicbook fan-letter cherry.

I've been a fan of THE WALKING DEAD since the very first issue (in fact, I remember running all over town trying to find a store that actually ordered the first issue after I heard about it) and now, finally, I've come to the point where there's a question I just can't wait to have answered.

What was the deal with the Governor before the zombie epidemic?

Based on what we know of his character, I'm guessing that he wasn't necessarily Governor before all this started and that he somehow used the disaster to insert himself (no creepy pun intended) in a position of power... is that the case? What the hell is the back-story on this evil piece o' crap?

If we're going to learn more about his past later I'll gladly accept a "wait and see" answer... but if not, how about some insight

into this evil prick? I mean, really, what the Hell is the deal with this guy?

Well, I really would like to show some of his past, just to give people a little more insight into his character. But I don't know if I should. The jury's still out on that one. Only time will tell.

Oh... one more thing. I've been raving about this book to my sweet lady for a while now and she recently asked me "Do the zombies digest the food they've eaten? If not, how can they keep eating? What happens to it?"

So... does the food somehow get dissolved and absorbed into their bodies... or, not to put too fine a point on it, do zombies poop?

Whatever the answer (or answers), keep up the good work, sir! I'm in for the long haul!

SINcerely,
Dirk Manning

Do zombies poop? Well, I'd think not. There's a few options here. In Marvel Zombies I stated the zombies had a powerful stomach acid that dissolved all the flesh they ate. A friend of mine, Mark Kidwell, hypothesized that zombies would just eat and eat until their stomach's burst. And that zombies would be walking around with gaping holes where their stomachs would be. I don't know the science behind it all, but maybe zombies do continually "evacuate" like recently dead people do. Obviously their digestive track doesn't work... they're dead... but maybe flesh and guts can just pass on through, all the way to the logical conclusion (pooping, kids). Now, I don't picture a zombie stopping and squatting or anything like that... but maybe they're soiling themselves as they shamble along.

Okay... that was fun.

Dear Cap'n Kirkman,

So now we're doing issues without the cast entirely? I guess it was okay, though; I just don't understand about the little zombie girl—she Is dead, right? I don't have much to say other than that.

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Thanks for writing anyway, Andrew. Always a pleasure.

Hello,

I really enjoy the book and have finally caught up through the trades enough to read new issues. I enjoy the realistic conversations and the overall believable tone of the series. You're the main reason I began paying attention to the names of writers on my comics. I began looking for other things you were writing and ironically enough realized I was already reading half of them. I began to read Invincible through trades while still getting (but not yet reading) Invincible and related books. You have become one of my favorite writers and a great inspiration for me as a wannabe-writer.

I enjoy the way the characters In WD have passed on. Some deaths truly disappointed me but only because I felt I knew the characters. At no point while reading this book have I questioned one thing that has transpired or thought of any plot point as a creative mistake. I find no flaws in this book. I was sickened when Lori cheated on Rick, I was shocked when Carol died, I was sympathetic when Michonne was raped and I had to turn away (and had to read it again for shear shock value) when the Governor was tortured. If Dale had died I would have been heart broken. To take characters and make them part of a reader's life takes talent. Needless to say, you are talented.

I work in a comic book store in Gastonia, NC and have talked a few people into getting your other books but unfortunately, Walking Dead remains my solo adventure. In a way it makes me feel like the book is written specifically for me. I feel like I'm the survivor no one sees or hears. This book is written in such a way that it takes us to a place where even in a world filled with zombies, we can relate to the characters. That's what I love about Walking Dead.

I also enjoy the long letter column. However, I was wondering why letter columns are never collected in trades. I have never heard an explanation for this, I was wondering if perhaps you knew.

The letters columns are kind of dated, I think... and they'd take up a ton of damn room in the TPBs making them bigger and more expensive. I doubt that would be worth it in the long run.

Although, I do love money... so if anyone thinks they'd order a TPB of just the letters columns let me know. If I hear from a ton of you—I'll do it. But... I'll feel really silly and ashamed, just so you know.

I enjoy your work, and I am a truly grateful fan. You and a video game called Dead Rising are responsible for my love of zombies (I don't like many other Horror movies besides zombie related ones). I hope to one day be able to write comics and you serve as a great example of what a writer should be.

May the Dead keep Walking,
Adam Davis

Well, thanks so much for all the kind words of praise, Adam. I wish you the best of luck with breaking in as a writer. It's quite tough.

I got Dead Rising for my X-Box but I've never played it. I look forward to one day having the time. I hear it's awesome.

Kirkman,

I didn't discover Walking Dead until around issue 28 or so. A friend introduced me via the trade paperbacks and, since then, I've been hooked! At the end of each issue I can't wait for next month to get here so I can read the next chapter.

At the end of issue 43 you said you were prepared for complaints. Well, I'm here to surprise you. While reading the issue I was expecting to see the scene with the Governor and his crew approaching the prison about midway through, and the last half would be the assault on our friends that reside there. After finishing the issue, I have to admit, I was a bit disappointed. Not because it was a bad read, but because I'm twice as excited as I ever have been about the next issue and I still have to wait thirty days for it to get to me! I think you chose a great way to tell this story. The flashback issue was an excellent idea. To hell with all the naysayers. The only bad thing about this issue is waiting for the next issue.

Walking Dead is one of the greatest comics out there right now.

I don't care if this letter gets printed or not. I just wanted you and everyone else involved to know that you are doing an amazing job with this book. It's the one I most look forward to every month. Even with all the heroes and mutants running around in the comic world, I say Make Mine Zombies!

Brandon

Well, much to my surprise, response to issue 43 seems to be largely positive. I'll try and do more all flashback issues to slow down the pacing from here on out. Thanks!

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I was tuned into The Walking Dead a little over a year ago by a friend who lent me the first TPB and I have been a loyal reader since then.

I have been like a kid in a candy store with each new issue due to the rich character development, the realistic portrayals of human conflict and suffering during extreme events and the obvious care that you, Charlie and Cliff show for these characters month after month.

Issue 43 was not one to disappoint.

While there was a pang of "loss" for not getting to see in this issue the Governor's assault on the prison, I was nonetheless gratified by this story. The extra delay in seeing the assault will make the inevitable conflict all the more immediate and intimate when it finally happens, primarily because of the length of time readers like myself have spent emotionally invested in these characters. We don't want to see bad things happen to the people/characters we like, but as we've learned all throughout this great story: no one is truly golden. EVERYONE SUFFERS.

Issue 44 will bring us readers to a place we've been dreading since these wonderful and tragic characters showed up at the prison. They will face a threat far greater than any zombie horde. They will face their own living kind. They won't be facing traumatized, yet rational human beings. They will be attacked by people who have been living at the razor's edge for weeks on end, who are driven by fear, death and suffering. At the head of this vanguard of destruction is a maniacal monster whom his followers fear and in a twisted way, love and trust.

Thus, my belief that you were right to tell more of the Governor's story now, in one issue.

In issue 43 we've received a further glimpse into the depth's of this man's very sad existence. I appreciate being able to see how the villain in a story thinks, and see the kind of loyalty and passion (and ultimately, fear) he can inspire in his followers. I like to

see where the depravity lies and how many moral boundaries are sacrificed with each passing look at the villain. The sequence of the Governor plucking out the zombie girl's teeth in order to kiss her was perfectly disturbing and is, I hope, a foreshadowing of the bizarreness to come at the prison.

The most intriguing part of 43 was the minor Bob character. He's pressed into healing and caring for the mutilated Governor and in so doing is forced to come out his own alcoholic stupor to deal with what could best be described as a nightmare reality, but reality nonetheless. The body posture and facial expression of Bob in the last 2 panels of page 20 is great because to me it appears that he's totally unsure of what he's gotten himself into by saving this man's life. In a way it seems to be a grim acceptance of the situation, while at the same time some measure of awe. By rights the Governor was basically a dead man, but this drunk with practically zero medical experience somehow was able to "resurrect" him and in so doing inadvertently unleashed a demon.

One thing I'd like to point out, is that it wasn't that Bob was such a good medic that suddenly came out of nowhere that saved Governor's life—although he certainly did save his life. The idea is that Michonne was keeping The Governor alive... so she could torture him more. His wounds were bad, but not impossible to heal from.

I wonder if Bob has a larger role to play down the line, or if I'm off base and he'll settle back into the background where he came from? I can't wait to find out!

Thank you Mr. Kirkman for being true to your characters and their story.

Sincerely,
Corey Sauer

You may in fact see Bob again soon. Stay tuned.

Kirkman;

Damn, man! I almost puked when I saw that "kiss scene" in issue № 43! What the f№&k were you thinking about?? You're sick, you know?
Charlie, he's sick too!
And Cliff...!

Anyway, keep up the good work. I love this book!

(Shit! Does it mean I am as sick as you...?)

J. J. del Val

I was thinking of ways to make you puke, J.J. I'll obviously have to try harder next time.

Dear Mr. Kirkman,

I just want to start off saying how much this comic rocks. I'm a huge horror/zombie fanatic and just got hooked on this comic 2 years ago, when i went out looking for some good zombie slash horror comic, but all I found was cheesy ones. That was until a friend recommended me to The Walking Dead. I started at issue №24 and was instantly hooked and went out and bought all issues up to date.

I think the thing that got me hooked was the fact that The Walking Dead was a never ending zombie story. The characters were full of emotion and personality, the artwork was amazing and full of detail while the storylines and subplots were nail biting and addictive to read on. Still, I have not up to this date, found a comic book as worthy as this one. I just want to give you a big Kudos and to everyone who works with you.

Thanks!

Now to the comic book, I have a few comments and questions for you...

1) Good job on the ending on issue №42, I was getting tired of seeing the gang in the prison waiting until someone got bitten by a zombie unexpectantly. So when I turned the page to see the Governor back in action my jaw was to the floor and I was so anxious to see the next issue. I just want to beg you to be merciful on all of the characters because at this point I don't want to see anybody leave the comic or turn into a zombie, well except for Patricia.

You're a bit out of luck on that one. Patricia is the only one who survives!

2) Just wanted to thank you for killing off carol. Just curious, why did you make carol the one who does all the weird crazy things? I mean never had I read or seen anything with a character whom tried to kill herself, was so alone she asked to be with a married couple, went into hiding for about a dozen issues, then sleep with someone 20 years younger, then actually successfully kill herself.

Well, I just wanted to show how stressful life in this book actually is and how crazy it can make weaker people. Carol was a pretty weak, dependent person. Things wouldn't work out for people like her in this world.

3) I just don't understand how the people in Woodbury not understand how the Governor isn't a bad guy or at least be suspicious of him. I mean, do they just go and watch the zombie fights and see strangers fighting Zombies and never see them again. Aren't they curious of where all these people are coming from or why they never see them again?

Most of the zombie fights are staged... remember when the two guys fought afterward because the fight was too real? Most of the time two guys get in there and fake fighting surrounded by the zombies. People getting bit was few and far between.

4) I think you should elaborate more on how people can turn into zombies without one biting you, or how this whole mess started in the first place. Was it like a plague or a rapture kind of thing?

Well, that starts to get into the origin of all this stuff, and I think that's unimportant to the series itself. There will be smaller answers as things progress... but never will we see the whole picture.

5) I why do you still keep the comic in black&white? I mean, if I had to pick whether it could be in color or black and white, I would totally choose color. Not just for the fact of whether I can tell if tyreese is black or white (yeah I had to skip over all the racist crap in previous hack letters) but it would be a hundred times more appealing to read if it was in color.

I disagree. I prefer it in black and white. The covers have enough color for me. I think black and white sets the perfect mood for the series.

To end this off I just want to say again this comic is amazing and one of the best zombie tales in the business. Also, I am looking forward to seeing Rick, his family and friends in many issues to come and keep up the nail biting stories.

Sincerely,
Brooke Kennedy (yes, girls actually read this comic!)

Yay! Girls!

Dear Mr Kirkman,

Big fan from across the pond, Scotland to be exact but that's enough about me this is about you. I've got a few questions that i have to ask my apologies but these aren't about TWD there about other projects of yours. The walking dead is perfect! well almost i have a request not a question about TWD

1) I know you don't like to put zombies of real people in your creation but i think you should make an exception for one man. The legend himself (no not Todd Macfarlane) but the grand daddy of zombie horror Mr George A. Romero come on! He deserves it. The man is a god, pay homage to the man who started it all come on!

George has already appeared as a zombie no less than three times in this series. I can't believe nobody's noticed.

2) Any insider info on the Haunt project with the great Todd McFarlane (Spawn's my number one Image comic TWD is a close second, sorry)?

I just got a mess of pages from the artist on the series today. The first issue should be out this summer—look for it!!

3) Finally Marvel Zombies 2, I have only read the first issue and by the time you read this and maybe print it (hint hint) the series will be finished and time may have answered my question but where is Captain America ? I know the Red Skull yanked out his brain but he can't be really dead. This is Cap were talking about. Marvel my have killed him off in the aftermath of civil war but come on! Keep him alive somewhere by alive i really mean alive-ish.

See the end of issue 3.

Thanks for reading,
Stewart McNaught

P.S. zombie Macfarlane and Romero COME ON!

I'll see what I can do.

To the crew behind the best title ever:

I have been a fan of zombie movies for eleven

to twelve years, and sadly on heard about your series about three months ago. The manager (Matt) at Atomic Comics loved your work, and when I happened to come across the trades he was putting on display, I asked him about the series. He told me that I needed to immediately pick up the first trade, and in the end if I absolutely hated it, then he would buy it from me. I listened and picked up the first trade. I finished reading it in less than two hours that night. I HAD to know what came next. I went first thing the next morning and found the first two hardcovers on the shelf. I bought both, as well as the next two trades and all of the remaining issues that had yet to be collected.

Two days before issue 44 came out, I had re-read the entire series for the SIXTH time. I have never read a series from start to finish as many times before this. I have to say that I am not a fan of black and white art.... but, I wouldn't take this book any other way. There has yet to be a point that I thought was dull. I noticed that Jeffrey Gibson wrote in about how slow the book was becoming, and I disagree with him.

Yeah! Right on!

I feel like the book would have suffered if you made them go out on adventures instead of preparing themselves for what was coming, as well as trying to live their lives and retain some sanity. Sure the book would have moved a little faster, but considering the world they are living in, I know that I would rather take things easy, and save my strength. You never know when the group would need me and my hammer. (And yes, I would use a hammer.)

Now, I do have some questions:

1) Do you think you will ever cover the origin? Maybe in a one- shot/ flash-back kind of deal?

You know, never say never. If sales were to plummet and I needed to pay my bills, I can't say I wouldn't do "THE WALKING DEAD: ORIGIN" but I really have no plans to. It's just not important to the story.

2) When the battle is resolved, assuming the Governor lives, will you explain what that creepy kiss was about with his daughter? It looked like he would have slipped her the tongue if Bob wasn't in the room.

There's really not much to explain, the Governor is a fucked up dude.

3) Recently I picked up and watched "Land of the Dead", and I was wondering if Romero had gotten his idea for the "biter" fights from you or was it just a coincedence?

It technically did appear in his flick first... but I figured the execution was different enough that I'd just move ahead as planned. This was something that was planned before the first issue shipped.

Also if you haven't seen it, it is awesome. My wife loves zombie movies, but I am trying frequently to get her to read your book. If it wasn't for sequential art, she would dig it. That said:

4) Do you thing you would ever write or have someone else write a novel for the Walking Dead?

No, but I might write one myself.

and finally

5) I'm sure others have said it, but would you please make it into a tv series or movie series at some point? I would love to see the characters on screen.

Me too—only time will tell.

Thank you for the time. I agree that you shouldn't need to comment anymore on the shipping of the book. I'm just happy that it's there, and I have no problem re-reading to pass the time-I'm still trying to find the re-occuring zombie mentioned in the hard cover.

-Jake Combs

Well, we are always late, but we still put out more comics in a year than a ton of other series, I mean... a ton. So there is cause to complain, we don't hit our exact dates... but we've still made it to issue 46 in just a hair over four years.

With that, I leave you!

See you back here very soon for another rip-roaring installment of THE WALKING DEAD!

-Robert Kirkman

NÚMERO 46

SALA DE MONTAJE

con Robert Kirkman

TWD (46)

MICHONNE NUNCA VUELVE DESPUÉS DE IRSE CON TYREESE... FUERA LUCHANDO COMO UN NINJA. SE ENCUENTRA CON RICK EN EL (48)

(1) EL GOB REACCIONA -- LO HAS VISTO?!

(2) CARGANDO EL AUTOBÚS CON SUMINISTROS -- ECHAN GASOLINA BILLY CON SIFÓN -- LO APARCAN EN LA PUERTA TRASERA.

(3) EL OTRO AUTOBÚS SE UTILIZA COMO BARRERA PARA LAS TORRES.

(4) CARGANDO LA BOLSA CON CARL. LE DICE QUE PROTEJA LAS COSAS... "¿DÓNDE ESTARÁS, PAPÁ?"

(5) LE DA UNA PISTOLA A CARL "OH... UNA COSA MÁS."

(6) AXEL + PATRICIA TENIENDO SEXO -- ENTRA ALICE.

(7) HERSHEL + BILLY SE PONEN EL TRAJE ANTIDISTURBIOS -- HABLAN DE RELIGIÓN. TENGO QUE VOLVER A LA TORRE.

(8) AXEL COMIENDO EN LA CAFETERÍA -- HABLA CON... ¿ALICE?

(9) MOMENTO DE RICK CON JULIE -- DEJA QUE MAMÁ DUERMA UN POCO.

(10) (1)(W) RICK ESCUCHA UN DISPARO "LORI -- DESPIERTA". (2)(W) BILLY CON ARMA HUMEANTE "CAMIÓN!" (3)(L) CAMIÓN SOLITARIO SE DETIENE...

(11) DA LA VUELTA... SOLO UN CAMIÓN... DEBEN DE SER ELLOS!

(12) REVELACIÓN DE TYREESE.

(13) ULTIMÁTUM TIENEN A MICHONNE PRISIONERA... FORCEJEO CON TYREESE --

(14) CORTA UN PEDAZO DE CUELLO...

(15)

(16) CABEZA CORTADA...

(17)

(18)

(19)

(20)

(21)

(22) ¿MICHONNE? ¿CON ESPADA CONTRA GOB?

(1) RICK CON JULIE.
(2) HERSHEL PREPARANDO A BILLY "CREO PAPÁ." MEJOR LUGAR.
(3) AXEL + ALICE -¿TENIENDO SEXO?
(4) MOCHILA PARA CARL... PROVISIONES PARA EL FUTURO.

HERSHEL, RICK, BILLY.
PATRICIA, ALICE
CON TRAJE ANTIDISTURBIOS.

RICK
LORI
CARL
JULIE
AXEL
ALICE
PATRICIA
HERSHEL
BILLY

(47) DISPARAN A MICHONNE. LAS BALAS REBOTAN EN LA ARMADURA... GOB: "ASÍ FUE LA ÚLTIMA VEZ QUE LE VOLASTE LOS SESOS?!"

Hablemos de altibajos. Pasar de la espantosa muerte de Tyreese en la mitad del número a la esperanzadora y triunfal página final es todo un latigazo... en el buen sentido... creo. ¿Es este el capítulo de *El Imperio Contraataca* de esta historia? O más bien... cada capítulo, incluido el último, es el capítulo de *El Imperio Contraataca*. Vaya puñado de números más tristes. ¿Cómo ha llegado a ser este cómic tan indiscutiblemente popular? ¡Sois un atajo de gente siniestra!

Recuerdo que quería que la escena de la muerte de Tyreese fuera brutalmente despiadada. Para mí, eso significaba muchas páginas. Muchos detalles y dejar que Charlie fuera todo lo meticuloso que quisiera al mostrar cada recoveco de la escena. Hoy en día, eso podría ser una escena de 6 páginas, puede que incluso 8... así que cuando estaba releyendo este número, pensé, "aquí viene", y de repente... se termina al cabo de TRES páginas. ¡¿TRES?! Qué locura... y sí, es posible que otro escritor vea esto y diga: "Sí, tres páginas era lo máximo que se podía exprimir ese momento", y tal vez tenga razón.

Me hace pensar que a lo mejor me he vuelto un poco autocomplaciente con mi trabajo. A decir verdad, todo este proceso de volver atrás y analizar la serie me ha abierto los ojos al mostrarme cosas que antes hacía cuando escribía y al recordarme algunos puntos de partida en mi evolución como escritor. Definitivamente, hay algunas cosas que quiero tratar de recuperar y otras a las que echo la vista atrás y me avergüenzo. Intentaré no mencionarlas TODAS porque, ya sabéis... quiero que sigáis disfrutando de esta serie.

Aunque para algunos números, como este en concreto, disfrutar no sea la palabra más apropiada.

Bien, la trama. Mirad esa cosa de ahí. Hay una GRAN nota para mí en la esquina superior derecha. Ese era a grandes rasgos mi plan, aunque si la memoria no me falla, el encuentro de Michonne con Rick tuvo lugar unos cuantos números más adelante.

Más abajo, podemos ver una lista numerada de escenas que quería incluir en este número. Un momento entre Rick y Julie era importante por... algún motivo. ¡¿Axel y Alice teniendo sexo?! Ésa pasó a ser Patricia, lo que tenía un poco más de lógica. Además, había la habitual lista de personajes, para que no me olvidara de nadie. Poco importa porque estoy seguro de que me olvidé de unos cuantos personajes aquí y allá en estas listas.

NOTAS DE PÁGINA:

1: Lo de traer la espada para "probar" que Michonne está muerta es muy chulo. Si alguien pensaba que el final del número anterior era una farsa, tal vez haya menos dudas después de esta página.

3: No hacía falta apuntar muchas cosas antes de escribir estas páginas de logística en las que los personajes se limitan a exponer los planes.

4: Hasta ahora, la trama se acerca mucho al número final... pero tío, ¡hay mucho espacio en blanco al final!

5: Estuve sentado durante diez minutos tratando de averiguar qué podía ser "Oh... una cosa más" DESPUÉS de que Rick le diera la pistola a Carl. Era un verdadero misterio para mí, y me resultaba frustrante no recordar lo necesario para poder explicároslo. Por ejemplo... ¿qué era lo que iba a decirle Rick a Carl DESPUÉS de darle la pistola? Hasta que me di cuenta de que la página empieza así, y que la otra cosa ES la pistola. Estoy convencido de que ese diálogo se me ocurrió después de escribir "Le da una pistola a Carl", y en aquel entonces, sabía cómo empezaba la página, pero tío... para mí ha sido una aventura a la que le he dedicado muchas palabras, y no sé si todo esto habrá valido la pena.

9: Probablemente habría dedicado más páginas a este momento hoy en día, para sacarle toda la emoción. ¿Cumple su función en una sola página? Desde luego. Pero tío, creo que podría haber hecho mucho más con el rato que Rick pasa con su hija recién nacida si le hubiera dedicado más páginas.

10: Mis tramas se parecen más a esto hoy en día. Haciendo un desglose en paneles. Cuando sé cómo desglosar una página en esta etapa, tengo que anotarlo para tenerlo a mano después. De lo contrario, al llegar a la etapa de guion, pienso: "Sé que tenía una buena división de paneles para esto, pero se me ha olvidado".

11: El diálogo de esta página en el que se describe lo que hace el camión queda algo excesivo, pero no se puede discutir que no cumpla con su cometido. Simplemente no me atreví a hacer que Charlie dibujara varios paneles del camión colocándose en la posición perfecta.

14: "Corta un pedazo de cuello..." Sí. Qué brutal. Sabía que quería que esto se extendiera a lo largo de varias páginas, dado que el Gobernador, con un solo brazo, no puede utilizar con eficacia la espada de Michonne.

A partir de aquí, sí... la trama está en blanco. Sabía que la página 15 iba a contener más hachazos. Y en la 16, "cabeza cortada" sí... lo pillé.

A partir de ese punto, me puse manos a la obra. Probablemente sabía que la página 18 sería esa página a toda plana y ni siquiera me molesté en anotarla. A veces, para ahorrar tiempo, lo escribía en mi plantilla de guion. Yo trabajo a partir de una plantilla en un documento de Word, así que puedo saltar a la página 18 y escribirla si quiero. Y eso es lo que ocurrió aquí. Para qué molestarse en escribirlo todo en papel cuando ya lo sé. Vamos a escribirlo ahora y así ahorramos tiempo.

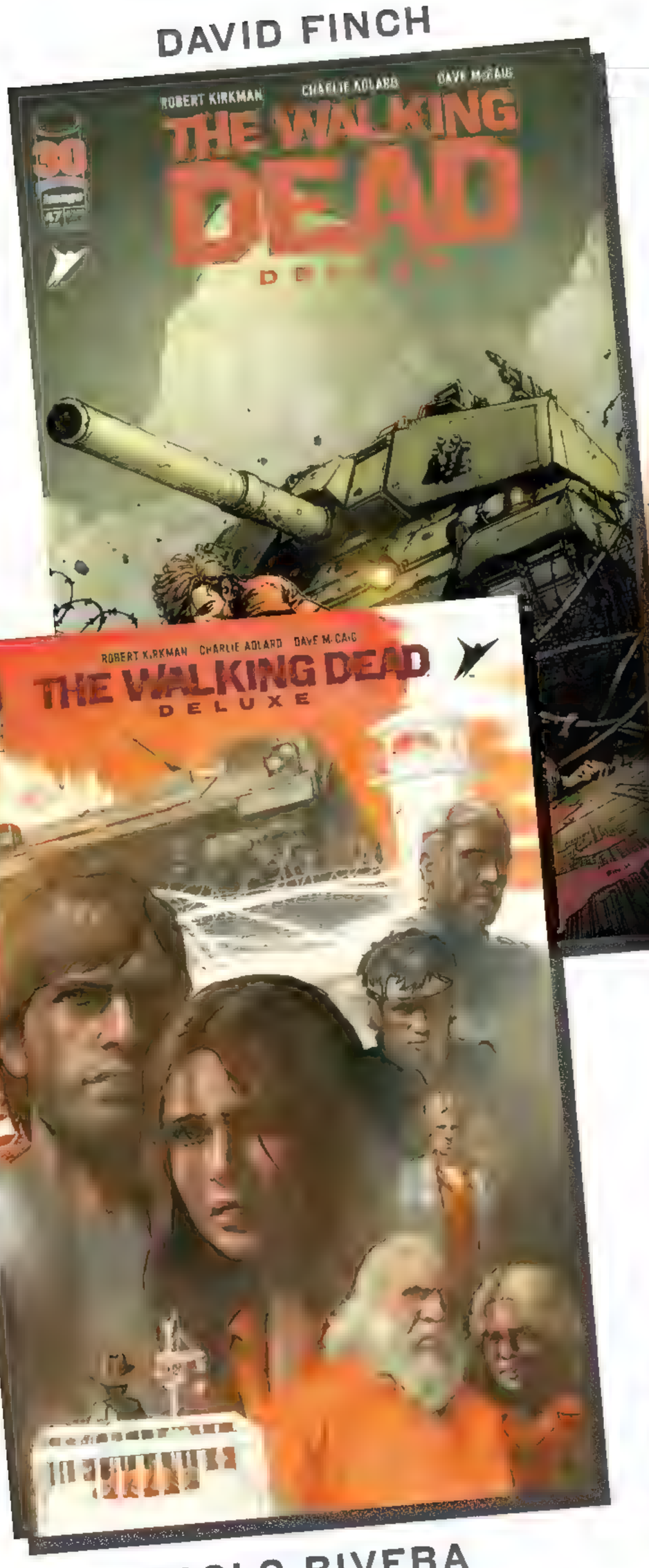
Importante: la página 22... era solo una OPCIÓN. Quería descubrir el final mientras escribía. Y está claro que pensé que ella recuperaría su espada para la página final, pero no terminó ocurriendo eso ni mucho menos.

Para rematar, en la parte inferior hay una nota final para el cómic №47 que revela cosas del próximo número. Sabía que quería incluir esa frase, así que como siempre, tuve que apuntarla aquí para que no se me olvidara.

PORTADA
MATT ROBERTS
COLORES OWEN GIENI

"Oh, dios--¿Son más? Parece que hay más."

DAVID FINCH



CHARLIE ADLARD

PAOLO RIVERA

JULIAN TOTINO TEDESCO

NÚMERO 47

¡DISPONIBLE 21 DE SEPTIEMBRE, 2022!

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La *PRESENTACIÓN DELUXE* de la épica del horror de supervivencia, contada nuevamente a todo color... comienza aquí.

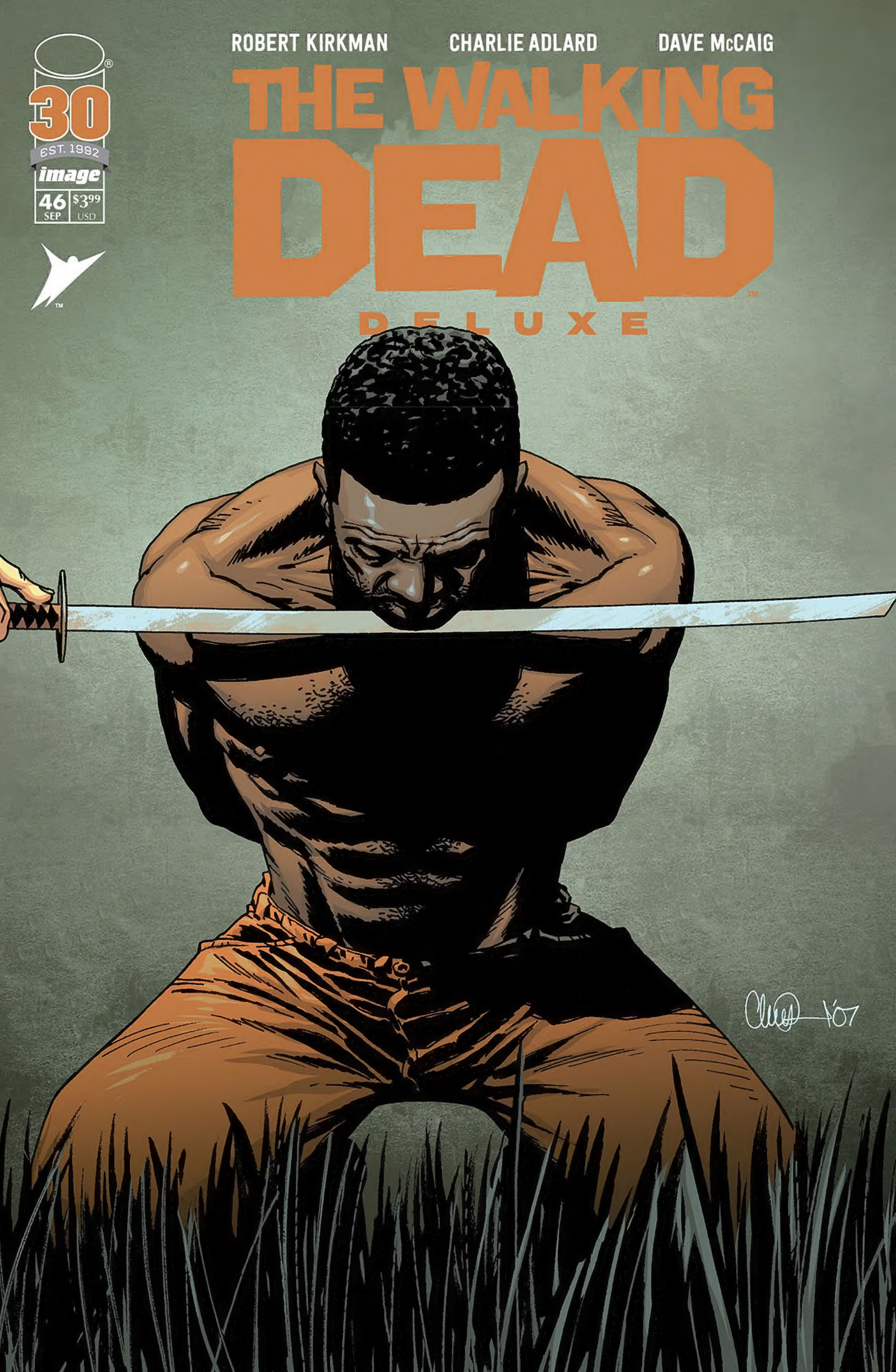
PORTADA ORIGINAL DEL NÚMERO 46 DE
CHARLIE ADLARD* & *CLIFF RATHBURN

RATED **M** / MATURE

ROBERT KIRKMAN CHARLIE ADLARD DAVE McCAIG

THE WALKING DEAD™

DELUXE



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